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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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S-E-C-R-E-T

25X1

COUNTRY	USSR (Black Sea)	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Port of Batumi	DATE DISTR.	MAR 25 1955
		NO. OF PAGES	3
DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT	
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	

25X1

This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE. THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE. (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

25X1

1. in the port of Batumi (N 41-38, E 41-38) a large naval vessel made fast inside the Petroleum Mole (No. 3 on sketch No. 1). it tied up at the pier marked No. 2 on the sketch. hoses being taken aboard and the ship was lower in the water when it left

25X1

2. The ship had two gun turrets on the foredeck with two guns in each turret, a bridge with a high tower or mast on its after section, a radar scanner on the tower, and two slanting stacks with caps or devices for catching smoke and soot. On the forward stack there was a red ring with a hammer and sickle, similar to those on the merchant vessels. On the after stack there were two blue rings. There was also a gun turret with two guns on the afterdeck behind the after stack. In addition to these gun turrets, there were several smaller weapons. The vessel was dark gray and bore no name.

3. a naval vessel at anchor at approximately N 41-39-40, E 41-40. The vessel was anchored in this position on several other occasions It had a mast or tower on the forward section of the bridge, and one stack.

4. A tugboat often lay at anchor near this naval vessel. By the tugboat there was a target raft with ribbing covered with canvas. the target never bore any marks after a hit. (sic).

5. when the vessels mentioned in paragraphs 3 and 4 were visible, gunfire was heard from the area behind the mountain northwest of the harbor. On another occasion, gunfire from a northwesterly direction.

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STATE	x	ARMY	x	NAVY	x	AIR	x	FBI		AEC						

(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

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6. Between Nos. 1 and 2 on the sketch, a dark gray tanker of about 8,000 DWT; the tanker had cranes and a great deal of equipment on the deck, while the below-decks cargo lay at the waterline. The tanker was manned by sailors, and some of the crewmen on the ship jumped in the water and swam to shore with the lines before the boat tied up. They were very good swimmers. They also had lifeboat maneuvers which showed them to be very poor rowers. 25X1 25X1

7. Another ship of about 10,000 tons arrived and unloaded twice and it arrived a third time It anchored at a point between Nos. 2 and 3 on the sketch and discharged its entire cargo in twelve to fourteen hours. This vessel also had cranes on deck and it was very wide at the water line. The bow of the ship began to curve out right from amidships (sic). It had very modern lines and was obviously built for long trips; it was manned by naval personnel. 25X1

8. a three-masted full-rigged ship with an auxiliary motor. It maneuvered up to the pier without the aid of a tugboat. At No. 3 on the sketch there was usually a general cargo ship unloading. At No. 4 there were some passenger boats. One of them went out for several short trips. 25X1

25X1

9. Every day there was considerable activity by single-engined jet aircraft above the harbor. Generally, they came singly or in groups of two from over the mountains. On one occasion six in one formation (see sketch No. 2). also several aircraft with piston engines. 25X1

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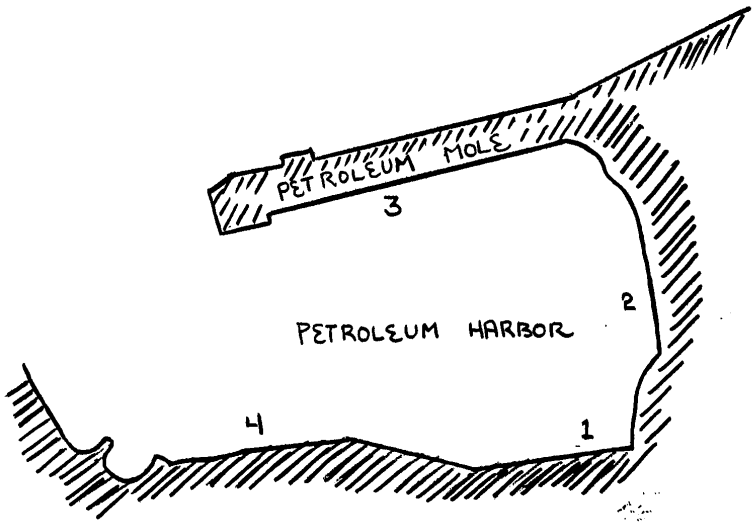
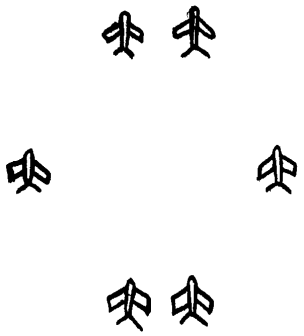
SKETCH NO. 1:
BATUMI HARBOR:



SKETCH NO. 2:
JET AIRCRAFT FORMATION:



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